

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

NEJAC Member Biographical Summaries

December 2021



CHAIR

Orduño, Sylvia

Michigan Welfare Rights Organization

Sylvia Orduño has been a community organizer with MWRO for over 25 years and is a strong advocate for the rights of poor and low-income residents. She has served on many governmental, academic, and philanthropic advisory boards and committees promoting policies and legislation for the basic needs of low-income people, particularly on water, energy and housing affordability and environmental justice protections.

She co-organized the U.S. Social Forum in 2010 in Detroit, has presented at several state, national and international forums on water justice, and facilitated dozens of panels, presentations, and convenings on community rights, water infrastructure, and centering the voices of impacted residents. Ms. Orduño is a convenor with the People's Water Board, a coalition of three dozen Michigan environmental, social justice and faith-based groups actively working on water affordability and the human rights to water and sanitation; is a co-coordinator for the National Coalition for Legislation on Affordable Water; a member of the Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition and the Water Is Life Coalition joining Michigan and Ontario, Canada grassroots communities on Great Lakes issues.

Additionally, Ms. Orduño serves as an appointee to the EPA's Great Lakes Advisory Board and the inaugural Michigan Environmental Justice Advisory Council.



VICE CHAIR

Osborne Jelks, Na'Taki

West Atlanta Watershed Alliance and Proctor Creek Stewardship Council

Dr. Na'Taki Osborne Jelks is Co-Founder and Board Chairperson of the West Atlanta Watershed Alliance (WAWA). WAWA is a community-based organization of residents in Northwest and Southwest Atlanta's Proctor, Utoy, and Sandy Creek Watersheds who are overburdened with environmental stressors and pollution but are often underrepresented at environmental decision-making tables. WAWA was established as result of community efforts to halt discriminatory wastewater treatment practices in West Atlanta, and it has grown to become an impactful force in community-centered sustainable development. Many call Jelks a "Watershed Warrior". Under her leadership, WAWA has led community efforts for 14+ years to clean up, protect, and restore Proctor Creek, one of Metro Atlanta's most impaired waterways.

Dr. Jelks was heavily involved in WAWA's work with other community-based organizations to establish the Proctor Creek Stewardship Council (PCSC), a grassroots organization that engages Proctor Creek residents in community-driven, collaborative problem-solving processes, along with government, academia,

and other stakeholders, to identify innovative, community-engaged approaches for environmental restoration of the watershed and its people. Jelks served as one of two founding Co-Chairs of the Council. As a part of Atlanta's Water Equity Task Force, she works to connect water burdened neighborhoods and residents threatened by gentrification to workforce development opportunities in green infrastructure. Jelks' and WAWA's community-driven advocacy to advance water equity issues in Atlanta were critical in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's decision to invest in the Proctor Creek as an Urban Waters Federal Partnership Site. Jelks has championed community science initiatives in which she trains West Atlanta residents to be watershed researchers who monitor water quality and investigate local environmental conditions; giving them actionable data to press for solutions to urban watershed and community health challenges. When she's not trying to transform toxic landscapes into healthy communities, Dr. Jelks works to teach and train the next generation of environmental health professionals and environmental justice advocates as an Assistant Professor in the Environmental & Health Sciences Program at Spelman College.



VICE CHAIR

Tilchin, Michael

Jacobs Engineering

Mike is a senior environmental consultant for Jacobs Engineering. He served as Jacobs' U.S. EPA Client Account Manager for more than 20 years. Under Mike's leadership, Jacobs had a major role in the clean up several hundred Superfund sites. In addition to supporting Superfund cleanups, the company serves EPA's brownfields, water security, water infrastructure, research and development, and sustainable community programs.

Mike is the co-vice chair of EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) and chaired the NEJAC Superfund Working Group that prepared NEJAC's report, Superfund Remediation and Redevelopment for Environmental Justice Communities, with in-depth strategies and recommendations for how to make the Superfund program more responsive and effective in protecting overburdened and underserved communities affected by toxic and hazardous waste sites.

Mike is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and served on ASCE's Committee on America's Infrastructure. Mike was the lead author for the Hazardous Waste Infrastructure section for ASCE's America's Infrastructure Report Card- 2021. Mike now serves on ASCE's Public Policy Committee.

Mike is active with the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and has a leadership role in ACEC's Remediation Work Group's RWG's ongoing efforts to improve cleanup actions under Superfund.

Mike serves on the Board of Directors of the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS), and was the AWS Board Chair from 2010 - 2013. AWS works with communities, the private sector, and all levels of government to restore what was among the most polluted urban rivers in the country and is now on a path to becoming fishable and swimmable within several years. Mike served on the Board of Directors of the CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company at the Department of Energy site in Hanford, Washington from 2013- 2019. Mike attended Harvard University and received a B.S. in Geology from the University of Michigan, and an M.S. in Biological and Agricultural Engineering from North Carolina State University. He is a professional engineer licensed in the State of Virginia, certified as a LEED

Green Associate, and is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Natural Resources Science at the University of Rhode Island.

OTHER MEMBERS



Baptiste, April
Colgate University

April Karen Baptiste is currently a Professor of Environmental Studies and Africana and Latin American Studies at Colgate University. Her research interests lie at the nexus of environmental psychology and environmental justice. Her projects have explored the worldviews to environmental problems in the Caribbean with a focus on marginalized populations like fishers'. Her current research project examines the characteristics of environmental movements across the Caribbean region, seeking to understand whether environmentalism can be view through the lens of decolonization. Ms. Baptiste received her PhD from State University of New York, College of Environmental Forestry in Environmental policy, a Master of Science in Science for the Management of Tropical Environments from the University of the West Indies St. Augustine, Trinidad and Bachelor of Science in Chemistry and Management from the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad.



Barreto, Brenda Torres
San Juan Bay Estuary Program

Brenda Torres Barreto is a professional in the field of sustainability with vast experience in environmental management, corporate social responsibility and public policy development through empowerment and multisector alliances. She has excelled in leadership positions in Puerto Rico and the United States. Her professional career has led her to be part of Governor Andrew Cuomo's executive team as Assistant Secretary for the Environment of the State of New York. It was there that Torres Barreto advised Governor Andrew Cuomo on environmental policy and had the opportunity to develop the state environmental justice platform in New York. Prior to working in the governor's office, Brenda led the efforts of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in the Northeastern United States. From this position, she represented the interests of Puerto Ricans on the Island and Puerto Ricans in this region of the US facing federal agencies, state and municipal governments. Among the initiatives promoted during this period is the development of the Puerto Rican Creative Network and the National Puerto Rican Agenda.

Brenda oversaw the federal and state efforts for the revitalization and sustainability of Vieques and for the dredging project in the Caño Martín Peña. Currently, Brenda serves as Executive Director of the San Juan Bay Estuary Program, an initiative focused on the restoration of water bodies in the metropolitan area of Puerto Rico, and part of the National Estuary Program partly funded by the USEPA. Through the Estuary Program, Torres Barreto coordinates multi-sector efforts, empowers citizens to be part of the restoration process and ensures the well-being of residents of the metropolitan area.

In the past, Brenda has advised government, business and community leaders in the application of sustainability practices in their social and economic projects. Brenda is the founder of the Latino Climate Action Network, which allows emerging leaders to take part in the discussion on climate justice by preparing them to evaluate and propose policy briefings. Torres Barreto also led the community revitalization effort in Williamsburg, Brooklyn through a comprehensive program called the "Green Light District."

Brenda's passion is the management of non-profit organizations for the conservation and restoration of habitats. In California, Brenda served as the Executive Director of the Audubon Society's third largest chapter in this state, serving 4,000 active members and more than 100 volunteers. Ms. Torres Barreto also worked as a public policy analyst for the United States Forest Service in Washington, DC, where she evaluated mechanisms for the ecosystem assessment of national forests in the western United States. She has served in numerous forums by providing policy advice on major restoration projects and social projects in California, New York and Puerto Rico. Brenda co-chairs the Climate Strong Island Network, a coalition of U.S. island entities that work across sectors and geographies in the continental US and the nation's states and Caribbean and Pacific territories to address the vulnerabilities and risks in the face of climate change. She collaborates with the Puerto Rican diaspora through her volunteer work at the Roundtable of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at the City University of New York Hunter College. Brenda is an Op-Ed contributor to local newspapers. Brenda is a LEED Accredited Professional for the development of green buildings. She received a BS in Environmental Sciences from the University of Puerto Rico and a Master's degree in Environmental Management from the Yale School of the Environment. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Integrated Water Resource Management from the University of Puerto Rico.



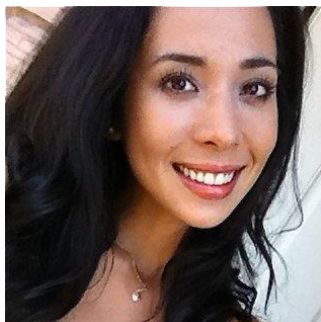
Beltran, Felicia
Arizona Department of Transportation

Felicia Beltran is a Civil Rights Compliance Manager at the Arizona Department of Transportation's (ADOT) Civil Rights Office (CRO) and oversees the Title VI, Environmental Justice (EJ) and External EEO Contractor Compliance programs. In April of 2016 she started her work in the CRO, prior to that she worked in public involvement at ADOT and at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). Her environmental justice experience started in 2007 as a Community Involvement Coordinator at the ADEQ where she executed public involvement requirements for groundwater, air quality and soil contamination at NPL Superfund and local Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) sites. In this position she also facilitated Community Advisory Boards. She worked closely with EPA staff at Region 9 to ensure that participation barriers were eliminated specifically for impacted low-income and minority groups.

Once at ADOT and in her role as a public involvement practitioner she served as a liaison between the public and ADOT to ensure that the public had opportunities to provide meaningful input on ADOT transportation projects. Building on her work with ADEQ she was able to expand and sharpen her skills as a EJ practitioner in the field of public involvement and became more aware of the historic

environmental disparities specifically to low-income and minority populations when they are not a part of the decision-making process for proposed projects within the community.

Now in her current position as a Civil Rights Compliance Manager she is most passionate about the opportunities to educate ADOT employees and management on ADOT's civil rights responsibilities. Her primary focus is to prevent discrimination from happening and to eliminate it when it does.



Britt, Joy

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Joy Britt was born and raised in Guam. Being raised on an island located on the ring of fire, she is no stranger to the effects of nature's most destructive forces, including earthquakes and typhoons and the effects of environmental impacts to human health. Three years of her adolescence was spent without running water or power due to severe storms and latent repairs to the island's infrastructure. She lived in third world country conditions but witnessed others much worse off. Such early experiences observing the need for access to healthcare led to her obtaining her MPH and her current line of work.

Joy is the Senior Program Manager of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium's Contamination Support Program. She is accountable for all aspects of project planning, grant writing, funding, and implementation of various projects, including, the Brownfields Tribal Response Program (TRP), the national contract with Kansas State University for Tribal Technical Assistance to Brownfields, and the Rural Alaska Monitoring Program.

Joy also participants in research and data dissemination of food security projects within the Bering Straits and consults on scientific and technical issues that arise through community concerns and as a contributor to the Local Environmental Observer Network and the Tribal Brownfields Forum. She provides collaborative technical assistance to 29 Tribal Response Programs throughout Alaska, all Alaska Tribes, and requesting statewide entities.



Bryson, Charles

City of St. Louis Civil Rights Enforcement Agency

Charles Bryson have served in various aspects of Human Service; from a Case Worker and Case Manager at various programs for persons who were homeless in Baltimore, St. Louis and Springfield Il., to the Director of a Head Start in Springfield Il and Executive Director of a Head Start Program in Peoria Il. He also held various positions in State and City government, including Area

Representative for the Missouri Housing Development Commission, Neighborhood Development Executive, and Senior Policy Advisor and Director of Department of Public Safety under former City of St. Louis Mayor Francis G. Slay and Director of the Civil Rights Enforcement Agency under both Mayor Slay and current Mayor Lyda Krewson. Finally, He sit on the Board of Earthday365, and

environmental group that focuses on ways residents and businesses can play a role in addressing environmental issue every day.



Carroll, Sr., Ambrose
Green the Church

Reverend Dr. Ambrose F. Carroll, Sr. is pastor of Church by The Side of The Road in Berkeley, CA. He is the Moderator of the Home & Foreign Mission District Association and Vice President at Large of the California State Baptist Convention. Dr. Carroll is also a commissioned chaplain in the United States Navy Reserve.

Prior to joining Church by The Side of The Road, Dr. Carroll served as the youth and young adult pastor of Third Baptist Church in San Francisco; senior pastor of the St. Paul Tabernacle Baptist Church of San Francisco; and senior pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church of Denver, CO. In 2009, Dr. Carroll & Carroll Ministries International founded Greenthechurch.org, which is the largest repository and catalyst for environmentalism and sustainability for the Black church globally.

Dr. Carroll earned a Master of Divinity from Morehouse School of Religion in Atlanta GA, a Doctor of Divinity from United Theological Seminary in Dayton Ohio, and a Master of Business Administration from Golden Gate University in San Francisco, CA. He is married to Katresa Williams, and they have three children.



Clow, Scott
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Scott Clow studied environmental science and chemistry in college-with an interest in analytical chemistry, he entered the environmental testing industry in the early 1990's. I worked in analytical laboratories in various capacities spending the last two years of lab work doing gas chromatography on drinking water samples- for VOC's and SOC's. Upon the closure of the laboratory, he worked and learned of an opportunity to work for the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe in southwest Colorado as a Water Quality Specialist. He held the position for 12 years, monitoring surface and groundwater quality, helping the Tribe gain jurisdiction to regulate surface waters, developing a groundwater protection plan and nonpoint source management plan, assisting in some drinking water monitoring and operations and wastewater monitoring and operations, writing grants, and various other work that was requested. When the opportunity presented itself to become the Director of the department he applied and got the position. Scott has been the department director for the last 13 years. In this capacity, he manages a staff that includes water quality, air quality, brownfields, biology, and other various environmental initiatives. We are fully grant funded and bring in several hundred thousand dollars per year to fund our program. Over the years Scott has become more passionate about the Tribe's environmental issues and worked hard to garner the resources and experts to address them. Some include oil field pollution, pollution from a uranium mill adjacent to the Reservation, surface water pollution from various sources, drinking water and wastewater infrastructure expansion, drinking water

treatment and Safe Drinking Water Act compliance assistance, solid and hazardous waste management, and development of a biology program to help with wildlife, habitat and species management including threatened and endangered species. Scott represents the Tribe on the Regional Tribal Operations Committee of EPA Region 8 tribes and is currently the Vice-Chair of the National Tribal Caucus. He has served as an alternate on the National Tribal Science Council, serve on the Board of Directors of two local not-for-profit organizations, volunteered for the Lower Dolores River Working Group, and was awarded a Citizen of the Year award in the community.



Colon de Mejias, Leticia
Green Eco Warriors

Leticia Colon de Mejias is a nationally awarded energy equity speaker, building scientist, author, educator, workforce development leader, and energy equity policy expert.

She is the Founder and President of Green Eco Warriors, an award-winning nonprofit, educational, and research organization focused on environmental conservation, environmental justice, sustainability, and the empowerment of youth and families. Through this organization, she has provided culturally aware climate and energy education, reclaimed wetlands, and created a Wetland Walk which increased the access to wetland areas for communities of color. Leticia focuses on the interconnectedness of air, water, land, and human life.

Leticia is an awarded published author; her books and tools focus on environmental leadership, sustainability, EJ, and she created a line of educational science-based graphic texts which feature a cast of diverse superheroes and align with national science standards (NGSS). These books and the programs connect low-income communities to scientific information on climate change, energy, civics, food, water, and Environmental Justice.

She is the founder of the nationally awarded company Energy Efficiencies Solutions. Her companies have provided energy efficiency assessments and upgrades to over 14,000 households and completed full energy efficiency retrofits in over 10 million square feet of multifamily housing.

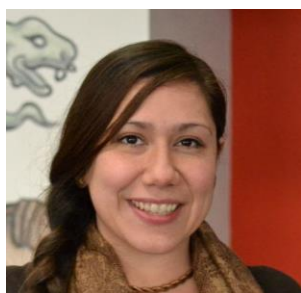
She is the Founder and Co-Chair of Efficiency For All, a nonprofit whose workforce programs create local jobs which lead to a stable income, create resilience in families, and develop generational wealth in low-income communities. EFA also collects and reflects energy equity policy, planning reports, and information to keep stakeholders and leaders informed on community impacts. EFA advocates for the stabilization and expansion of local and national Energy Efficiency and renewable programs which protect human health and the environment, provide local jobs, increase positive economic outcomes, and reduce short-term and long-term energy costs while protecting human health.

She is the recipient of many national awards, including the United States of America's Department of Energy Award for work with at-risk and minority populations, National Award Building Scientist Hall of Fame, Minority Small Business of the year award, National Department of Education award.

Leticia has many appointed and volunteer roles including the Policy Co-Chair of the National Building Performance Association, Chair of Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs on the Commission for the state of

Connecticut Commission on Women Children Elderly Latino & Puerto Rican Affairs, member of the Governor's Workforce Council in the Office of Workforce Strategy, and a member of the Minority Initiative Board where she advocates for equity issues and Climate Justice, transportation as well as diversity and inclusion. She provides input in several other local state agencies and local nonprofits and has served as an advisor on many state and local Commissions.

She has been called to give expert testimony to Congress on Climate Change, Workforce Development, and Green Energy Careers, and Small Business. Leticia has also raised and supported important legislation including but not limited to the PFAS bill (CT Bill No. 926) which was signed into law in June of 2021, Healthy Homes HB 356 in the state of Connecticut in the 2021 legislative session. Her work focuses on lifting the voice of the underrepresented, disconnected, and disparaged, as she seeks to empower them in the fight for survival.



de Aztlán, Cemelli
La Mujer Obrera

Cemelli de Aztlán, born and raised in El Paso has been engaged in community organizing, advocacy and non-profit work throughout her career. As a community organizer with La Mujer Obrera, working alongside residents, parents and youth to organize in the barrio to address the systemic exploitation of low-income, Spanish-speaking, immigrant neighborhoods on the border.

There is a great divide in the city of El Paso that excludes communities like Barrio Chamizal. Our geographic boundaries are defined by environmental hazards; our neighborhood sits north of an international bridge and east of an interstate with heavy truck traffic, west of an industrial waste facility and train tracks and south a major highway, I-10. The divide is not only geographical, but political. We seek to create a dignified, sustainable, and empowering alternative rooted in justice.

Cemelli received her Bachelor of Arts in English & Religion from Concordia University at Austin, and her master's in divinity with a focus on Women in Religious Studies & Indigenous Religious Studies from Harvard University.



Doyle, John
Little Bighorn College

John Doyle was born, raised and continues to live in Crow Agency, in the heart of the Crow Reservation. He is an enrolled Tribal member and has dedicated his life to addressing environmental and social justice concerns for his people, beginning with serving as a County Commissioner for 24 years, the Director of the Tribal Water and Wastewater Authority for 15 years and continuing after his retirement to serve through co-founding and co-leading multiple community organizations dedicated to improving Tribal environmental health, youth environmental literacy and community development.

John Doyle is currently employed with Little Big Horn College and Montana State University conducting collaborative environmental health research with the Crow Tribal community, under the guidance of the Crow Environmental Health Steering Committee. John Doyle has devoted his life to helping his people,

the Crow Tribe, and in the past ten years has become active in Tribal environmental health on a national level.



Edwards, Jabari O.

J5 GBL, LLC

Jabari O. Edwards, Sr. is a native of Columbus, Ms. He is the owner of J5 GBL, LLC, a project management firm, majority owner of The Bridge Group, LLC, an insurance brokerage firm, BH Properties, and North Atlantic Security Company. Having established personal and professional relationships throughout the United States, Jabari's focus is growing his organizational brand on a national and global level.

Jabari began his entrepreneurial career in January 2000, with the opening of an insurance agency. He was co-owner of H&E Construction, a minority owned company that focused on residential and small commercial projects. He has a proven track record of managing people and the timely delivery of projects. Upon the formation of The Bridge Group (larger clients include MGM Mirage, United States Secretary of State Global Embassy Arts, Southern Company) in 2007 (purchased from Wells Fargo), Jabari worked to build a relationship with Aon (the largest insurance brokerage and consulting firm in the world), and from there worked with management a team in Chicago to build Cornerstone Innovative Solutions (a division that partners and mentors minority firms). In 2010, Jabari worked with the CEO's of Wells Fargo global brokerage Dave Zuercher and Neal Aton, along with Anne Doss (head of banking relationships) to create a business model for Wells Fargo diversity initiative. In 2012, Jabari worked with Willis executives Kim Waller and Phil Styles to create Willis' business model, Willis Open. Jabari has testified in State of Mississippi hearings about ways to improve minority participation on state funded contracts.

In 2010, Jabari saw the need for a minority firm with scalability in the construction sector, and therefore he started J5 GBL. J5 has served as construction/project managers on many complex projects for many global companies around the country. J5 serves as the ground and building maintenance contract for Southern Company on their Kemper county MS Project, served civil contractor for Kior (biofuel plant located in Columbus, MS). J5, in a contract assignment, serving as the project management firm, has been the first minority contractor in the history of Columbus MS. Ironically Jabari's father, Joe Edwards was the first African American elected official in the history of the city. Jabari's mission is to build a project management firm which combines unparalleled expertise with a commitment to real diversity. Working for the Greenfield Environmental Trust, J5 is now known around the country as one of the premier environmental management and environmental Justice firms in the South-East Region of the United States.

Jabari also served as a director on various boards, including Mississippi Health Trust Fund (appointed by Governor Haley Barbour this board managed and set the budget of the billions in funds received from the tobacco lawsuit), Vice-Chairman of Columbus Housing Authority and Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the Columbus Utility Board. article was written about this program, in a national utility magazine, and duplicated by other energy providers. Currently Jabari serves on the Board of the Boys and Girls Club, Small Business Capitol Loan Fund Board (formerly the Minority Loan Fund Board), The North Mississippi Board for Regions bank, The Mississippi Business Finance Corporation/ Mississippi Development Bank (appointed by Governor Phil Bryant), and The United States EPA's The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) (Appointed by EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt in December 2017).

He is married to the former Jewel Sherrod, and they have three children: Tori, Jabari Jr., and Joe. They are active members of Vibrant Church in Columbus, MS. He is active in his community, a Diamond Lifetime Member of the NAACP. He and Jewel started their non-profit Bubba's Hope to further their commitment to honor Jabari's father, Joe, by serving and help the less fortunate around the country.



Fritz, Jan

University of Cincinnati, University of Johannesburg and University of South Florida

Jan Marie Fritz, Ph.D., Certified Clinical Sociologist (C.C.S.), is a Professor in the School of Planning at the University of Cincinnati (USA); a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg (South Africa) and a Visiting Professor with Taylor's University (Malaysia). She currently is a Fulbright-National Science Foundation Arctic Scholar in Iceland. She is member of the Executive Committee of the International Sociological

Association (ISA), the lead ISA representative to the United Nations and a Fulbright Specialist (consultant). She is a member of the Mayor's Gender Equality Task Force in Cincinnati, Ohio, editor of Springer's Clinical Sociology book series, a docent at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House in Cincinnati, Ohio and was, for many years, a special education mediator for the state of Kentucky. She has been a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow in Washington, D.C., and a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar in Human Rights and International Studies at the Danish Institute for Human Rights. She has been given Fulbright travel awards to Sweden, the United Kingdom and Poland.

Dr Fritz's work has won a number of awards including the Ohio Mediation Association's Better World Award and the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Career Award for the Practice of Sociology. Her publications include: *Moving Toward a Just Peace: The Mediation Continuum*; *Community Intervention: Clinical Sociological Perspectives*; *International Clinical Sociology*; "Cities for CEDAW: Notes on Effective Intervention," "Social Justice for Women and Girls: Global Pacts, Unmet Goals, Environmental Issues", "Environmental Injustice and Incarceration: Notes from the United States" and "Searching for Environmental Justice: National Stories, Global Possibilities."



Ghanta, Venu

Duke Energy

Venu Ghanta is the Vice President of Federal Regulatory Affairs and Environmental Policy at Duke Energy Corporation. Venu leads the company's environmental policy development and engagement strategy with EPA, other key federal agencies, and national environmental organizations. He also provides strategic analysis to senior leadership on the opportunities and risks related to the federal regulation of the utility industry. Venu currently serves as co-chair of Edison Electric Institute's Air Quality Subcommittee.

Prior to coming to Duke, Venu worked in EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), where he spent nine years designing and implementing regulations. Venu served as technical lead in developing the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, earning an EPA Gold Medal for Exceptional Service. He also was a key member of the Renewable Fuel Standard team, earning the agency's Science Achievement Award. From 2010-2012, Venu served as a Special Assistant to EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, where he was responsible for obtaining the Administrator's concurrence on all regulations issued by EPA's air office.

Venu served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Namibia and Nepal. He received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan, an M.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, and an M.S. in Environmental Sciences and Policy from Johns Hopkins University.



Harrison, Jill

University of Colorado Boulder

Jill Lindsey Harrison is Associate Professor at the University of Colorado Boulder with expertise in environmental justice, environmental politics, agriculture and food politics, and immigration politics. She has conducted research on environmental politics with a focus on environmental justice for 20 years. Her research focuses on identifying the roots of environmental injustice in the contemporary United States and innovative strategies for redressing those harms. She takes seriously

the concerns of members of environmentally overburdened and marginalized communities; conducts research that helps to make visible, explain, and address the injustices they experience; uses her expertise in qualitative research methods to collect data that sheds new light on the forms, scope, and consequences of injustice; draws on her interdisciplinary training in environmental studies to marshal and integrate relevant scientific evidence from many fields of study; and specifies regulatory and policy reforms that would help rectify these inequalities. She is author of two books: *From the Inside Out: The Fight for Environmental Justice within Government Agencies* (MIT Press, 2019), which received Honorable Mention for the 2020 Allan Schnaiberg Outstanding Publication Award from the American Sociological Association's Section on Environmental Sociology, and *Pesticide Drift and the Pursuit of Environmental Justice* (MIT Press, 2011), winner of the 2012 Fred Buttel Outstanding Scholarly Achievement Award from the Rural Sociological Society and the 2012 Association of Humanist Sociology Book Award. She has also published many articles, including in *Social Problems*, *Environmental Sociology*, *Environmental Politics*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Political Geography*, *Geoforum*, *Antipode*, *Society and Natural Resources*, *Agriculture and Human Values*, and *New Labor Forum*, among other journals.



King, Virginia
Marathon Petroleum Company

Virginia M. King is the Director of Sustainability and Stakeholder Engagement for Marathon Petroleum Company (MPC). MPC is a leading, integrated, downstream energy company headquartered in Findlay, Ohio. Previously, Ms. King was the Environmental, Safety, and Security Assistant General Counsel, specializing in environmental justice and the Clean Air Act. She has a Chemical Engineering degree and Law degree from the University of Toledo. She is a patent attorney and has worked in the petroleum industry for over 30 years.



Kricun, Andy
Moonshot Missions

Andrew (Andy) Kricun is a Managing Director with Moonshot Missions, a non-profit focused on providing technical assistance to water utilities in underserved communities. He is also a Senior Fellow with the US Water Alliance working on their national water equity initiative. He is also working as a Senior Advisor at the Water Center at the University of Pennsylvania on various projects related to the Delaware River watershed. He also serves as the chair of the NJ Environmental Justice Advisory Council's water equity committee, and the co-chair of the Jersey Water Works water equity initiative and is a trustee of the NJ Conservation Foundation.

Andy is committed to social justice, with a particular emphasis on water equity. He believes very strongly that everyone, regardless of where they live or what they look like, is entitled to safe drinking water and clean waterways at an affordable rate. He also believes that no community, household or person should be subjected to a disproportionate environmental burden. He hopes to be able to do his part to reduce environmental injustices and is looking forward to serving on the NEJAC to help those who need help the most.

Andy has over 35 years of wastewater and biosolids management experience. He graduated with honors from Princeton University with a degree in chemical engineering. He also holds a professional engineer's license in civil engineering and is a board-certified environmental engineer as well.



McClain, Mildred
Harambee House

Dr. Mildred McClain co-founded and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice, a community-based organization whose mission is to build the capacity of communities to solve their problems and to engage in positive growth and development. The organization was created in 1990, is located in Savannah, GA, and serves communities at the local, state, regional, national, and international levels.

Dr. McClain has been a human rights activists and teacher for over 40 years. She has served on numerous committees, commissions, working groups and boards. She created major partnerships with the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the Centers for Disease Control, and many community-based organizations, with the goals of addressing public health and environmental justice issues and concerns. Under Dr. McClain's leadership for the past 27 years, the Black Youth Leadership Development Institute has trained over 3000 young people to serve as leaders in their communities. The goal of the work is to develop the capacity of communities to create lifestyles that promote health, wellness, and environmental sustainability through community gardens, health fairs, testing children for lead poison, and soil testing in contaminated communities.

alliance, Los Jardines advocates for stronger, safer, and just chemical policies. Mr. Moore is a recipient of the 2005 Ford Foundation Leadership for a Changing World.



Nagano, Ayako
Common Vision

Ms. Nagano serves as Managing Attorney for Midori Law Group, P.C. and specializes in serving Japanese American seniors. Ayako serves as Secretary of the Board for four 501(c)(3) non-profits: Common Vision, which installs school gardens all across California; Transition Berkeley, a local Transition Town initiative to bring neighbors together to build a more equitable, sustainable, resilient future for Berkeley; and Nippon Kobo, which produces cross-cultural programs by luminaries in the Japanese American community. She also serves on the boards of Transition US, the national hub of the worldwide Transition Town movement fostering just resilience in over 1000 communities worldwide, and Clean Water Fund, the 501(c)(3) arm of Clean Water Action, whose mission it is to protect our environment, health, economic well-being and community quality of life. She also serves as board chair of the NorCal Resilience Network, an organization that plans for community resilience and promotes resilience hubs in the age of climate change.

Ayako also serves on the Steering Committees of the Green Leadership Trust, a coalition of non-profit board members of color, promoting diversity, equity and inclusion within Environmental movement and is also co-chair of ITRC (International Transformational Resilience Coalition) in California, working to build widespread levels of psychological and psycho-social-spiritual resilience for the adversities generated by climate change. She also organizes the local Plastic Reduction Working Group out of the Ecology Center in Berkeley, California.



Orr, Jeremy F.
Natural Resources Defense Council

Mr. Orr is an attorney for the Natural Resources Defense Council. As a member of NRDC's Safe Water Initiative, Mr. Orr focuses on drinking water and source water protection issues, working to ensure that everyone has access to safe, sufficient, and affordable drinking water.

Immediately prior to joining NRDC, Mr. Orr served as the National State Program Director for Peoples Climate Movement where he organized communities throughout the country around climate justice issues. Formerly, Mr. Orr also worked as the Environmental Justice Coordinator for the Transnational Environmental Law Clinic at Wayne State University Law School. In that role, Mr. Orr also served as the Coordinator for the historic Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition. Before joining Wayne Law, Mr. Orr was the Executive Director of the Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council where he led regional efforts to improve environmental and public health through river protection and restoration, stream monitoring, storm water management, food justice, and environmental justice programming. Additionally, Mr. Orr spent three years as a Community Organizer with the Gamaliel Foundation where he organized around numerous social justice issues including the cleanup of a PCB-contaminated landfill.

Mr. Orr currently serves a Vice-Chair of the Environmental Justice Committee for the American Bar Association's Civil Rights and Social Justice Section and State Chair of Environmental and Climate Justice for the Michigan State Conference NAACP. Mr. Orr also sits on boards of directors for multiple non-profit. Mr. Orr earned his Bachelor's, Master's, and Juris Doctor from Michigan State University.



Owen, Sofia

Environmental Justice Legal Services (EJLS), Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE)

Sofia is ACE's Staff Attorney. She works with ACE staff to ensure that the legal rights of people of color and low-income residents are protected. She also provides systematic legislative and regulatory advocacy on behalf of environmental justice communities at the municipal and state level. Sofia comes to ACE from Community Action Works (formerly Toxics Action

Center), where she provided organizing assistance to community groups in Eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island and built power to address environmental racism, settler colonialism, and other systemic barriers that disproportionately affect communities on the front lines of pollution. Previously, Sofia worked as a Trial Attorney for the Committee for Public Counsel Services. She has a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law, a Master's in Environmental law and Policy from Vermont Law School, and a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania. When not at work, Sofia organizes with the Deeper Than Water coalition and volunteers with the Boston chapter of Black & Pink. She enjoys practicing yoga and watching soccer, particularly the US Women's National Team and the Uruguayan national teams.



Pauli, Benjamin

Kettering University

Dr. Ben Pauli is Associate Professor of Social Science at Kettering University in Flint, MI. He holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Rutgers University (2014). Dr. Pauli has been extensively involved in the response to the Flint water crisis as an activist and researcher. He is the author of *Flint Fights Back: Environmental Justice and Democracy in the Flint Water Crisis* (MIT Press

2019), which examines the role of local water activists in exposing, addressing, and constructing a

narrative around the crisis. From 2016 to 2017, Dr. Pauli worked with the Flint Area Health and Environment Partnership on a legionella sampling project funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. He is the president of the board of the Environmental Transformation Movement of Flint (etmflint.org), a local environmental justice group, and vice-chair of the Flint Water System Advisory Council. Dr. Pauli's water-related research and advocacy interests include issues of water and trust, water governance, environmental justice, and principles of engagement and collaboration in community-based research. On NEJAC, Dr. Pauli serves as a representative of the academic community.



Perry, Jonathan
Becenti Chapter

Jonathan Perry is a member of the Navajo Nation and resides in the community of Becenti located within the Eastern Navajo Agency in northwestern New Mexico. He has dedicated his life to serving his people, protecting communities, and preserving Diné cultural and historical knowledge. Currently Mr. Perry is serving as the Becenti Chapter President, a local leadership position, within his community; and is considered a Náat'áanii (leader) on the Navajo Nation due to his many years of serving the Navajo people.

Prior to becoming an elected tribal official Mr. Perry was active in many community grassroots organizations ranging from cultural preservation initiatives to the protection of natural resources and sacred areas. Mr. Perry is notably recognized for his work in efforts to address cleanup of areas contaminated from past uranium mining activities on and near the Navajo Nation. As an outspoken advocate for emphasizing the importance of the involvement and voice of communities, he created advisory bodies within the Navajo Nation government to provide opportunity for the public be involved with policy making.

Mr. Perry is a former council delegate of the 23rd Navajo Nation Council where he served on the Law-and-Order Committee, the Resources and Development Committee, and the Navajo Nation Sacred Sites Taskforce; he is also a former member of the Eastern Navajo Land Commission where he worked on land and energy matters concerning communities located in Eastern Navajo Agency; and is a former Becenti Chapter Vice-President



Piazza, Millie
Washington State Department of Ecology

Millie Piazza is the Manager of the Office of Equity and Environmental Justice for the Washington State Department of Ecology. In this role, she works to implement the state's environmental justice law, integrate environmental justice priorities into agency strategy, advance nondiscrimination practices to comply with Title VI obligations, and address equity and justice challenges in Washington. She began her work at Ecology in 1994, designing and conducting the first statewide EJ study. She has broad experience in national and international environmental justice, and currently serves on the Governor's Interagency Council on Health Disparities and the

University of Washington Superfund Research Program External Advisory Board. Millie received a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability, a Master of Environmental Studies (MES) from The Evergreen State College, and a Bachelors in Sociology from Whitman College.



Shabazz, Jerome

JASTECH Development Services and Overbrook Environmental Education Center

Jerome Shabazz is the founder and Executive Director of JASTECH (Juveniles Active in Science and Technology) Development Services, Inc. A not-for-profit organization developed in 1998, to promote environmental justice; encourage sustainable community development and to promote public health in urban communities. In 2002, JASTECH applied for and received a US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant under the Clean Water Act to establish the Overbrook Environmental Education Center (OEEC), a community-based center dedicated to preserving our built and natural environments.

Under Mr. Shabazz's direction, the OEEC completed a Targeted Brownfields Assessments (TBA) and remediated environmental hazards from a Brownfield site in Western Philadelphia. The OEEC has trained thousands of students on the Clean Water Act and Toxic Substances Control Act, and other topics that reduces human exposure to toxic substances at home and school. The OEEC is nationally known for its Environmental Justice and project-based learning programs.

Prior to working in the non-profit sector, Mr. Shabazz worked for 25 years in Water and Gas utilities. He served as Safety & Training Manager at the Philadelphia Gas Works - LNG Processing Division and was responsible for 49 CFR §193.2713 training in operations and maintenance; trained personnel and contractors on safety issues, codes, regulations, departmental standards, corporate policies and procedures. He also worked in the training, engineering, and operations divisions at the Philadelphia Water Department. Mr. Shabazz is an adjunct professor and educator at both Community College of Philadelphia and Penn State University. In 2017, he was appointed to the PA Department of Environmental Protection's - Citizen Advisory Council and Environmental Justice Advisory Board. He is also a board member on Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful.

Shabazz earned his Master of Science in Environmental Protection & Safety Management from St. Joseph's University and Bachelor of Arts in Organization Management from Eastern University. He has received numerous citations and award, most recently from the PA House of Representatives and City Council of Philadelphia for his commitment to Environmental Justice and Community Development.



Shirley, Jacqueline

Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Jacqueline Shirley born and raised in Alaska, is a Tribal member of the Native Village of Hooper Bay on the Bering Sea coast, is currently employed at Rural Community Assistance Corporation. She provides training and technical assistance to Tribes, nonprofit and local agencies, to improve or develop water, wastewater and solid waste sustainable systems and programs in rural communities across the western portion of the U.S. She obtained her Master of Public Health (MPH) from the University of Alaska, Anchorage. She also

served 18 years in the Army National Guard as a Field Medic. She has spent the past 40 years advocating to improve human and environmental health.



Sprayberry, Karen

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

Mrs. Sprayberry has worked with environmental justice communities for approximately 22 years; she began working at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) in the Superfund and Voluntary Cleanup Program/Brownfield program as a public participation coordinator. She initially began to work with the ReGenesis and its communities in Spartanburg,

South Carolina, shortly after coming to SC DHEC; ReGenesis would later win environmental justice and redevelopment awards because of the over \$250 million revitalization effort conducted within these communities. She attended many community and public meetings and slowly began to build trust with that community and its leaders. When it was time for SC DHEC to oversee work specifically within this community, a foundation of trust and understanding had been instilled so as there was more of a collaborative, problem-solving method instilled between the various parties as the issues were address.

Mrs. Sprayberry now serves as the Special Advisor to the Director of Environmental Affairs at SC DHEC, with her specialty being environmental justice and community involvement; she retired in 2015 and now is a part-time employee. As well as working with the Director, she continues to work closely with the Environmental Justice and Community Involvement Liaisons and other public participation staff within SC DHEC. She has received both internal and external awards for her work at SC DHEC, including receiving a House Resolution from the S. C. House of Representatives in 2015. Another award she is proud of is from 2008, when SC DHEC was awarded the “U. S. EPA Environmental Justice Achievement Award” due to the public participation and environmental justice work conducted both internally and externally by her and her peers. In 2011, Mrs. Sprayberry conducted the “Fundamentals of Public Participation” training during the EPA’s Community Involvement and Training Conference. Mrs. Sprayberry has a BA degree in Political Science from Columbia College.



Talley, Pamela

Lewis Place Historical Preservation Inc.

Pamela Talley is an advanced nurse practitioner with a master's degree in nursing and a national certification in adult psychiatric mental health nursing. She oversees both clinic and outreach services to areas that serve the poor and vulnerable, food pantries, libraries, churches, health fairs etc. In 2000, she co-founded Lewis Place Historical Preservation, a community-based nonprofit organization, with two other neighbors. The mission of Lewis Place Historical

Preservation is to save this historic community that was placed on the national registry of historic places in 1979. Since 2009, Pamela Talley has served as the volunteer Executive Director.

In 2007, Pamela Talley was recognized by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as a Community Health Leader for assisting grandparents raising grandchildren, many of whom were facing issues of eminent domain and were being displaced. She founded an organization, known as "Grandparents As Parents Support Project". As an awardee, she participated in the group that conducted research on social determinants of health. In 2011, She successfully led neighbors in an effort to drive St. Louis city government with assisting uninsured neighbors with rebuilding their homes after the community was hit by an enhanced fajita scale 1 tornado.

In 2015, Lewis Place Historical Preservation obtained a vacant house from the city of St. Louis on one of the three blocks of Lewis Place and entered a joint venture as a co-developer with an established developer and construction company. The home was completely renovated and sold to a family at an affordable rate. Pamela Talley currently serves as co-chair of a steering committee, a collaborative community group, organized to execute and implement residential development to improve the Lewis Place and Fountain Park neighborhood.



Whitehead, Sandra F.

George Washington University

Sandra is the Program Director for the Sustainable Urban Planning Program. Sandra teaches community-focused classes aimed at improving the health, equity and sustainability of communities. Prior to joining GW, she worked as the Director of Partnership Development at the National Environmental Health Association, the National Association of County and City Health Officials and the Florida Department of Health.

In addition to her work at GW, Dr. Whitehead also works directly with community groups to improve their health and equity outcomes. She has worked across Florida on health impact assessments and implementing Health in All Policies and she has trained over 500 community activists to use the language and tools of public health to change policy.